

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (previously presented) A method for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and a network element located on a second side of the firewall, comprising the steps of:

providing the application source with an applet to drive a user request, said applet provided by a web server includes on the first side of the firewall;

creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol (HTTP-SOAP) packet of said user request

removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP packet to produce a SOAP message;

sending said user request including said SOAP message to a read/write server provided on the second side of the firewall;

transmitting said SOAP message to a network management agent (NMA) server provided on the second side of the firewall;

building an appropriate nodal model of said user request, including said SOAP message, in said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall;

sending SOAP encoded requests from said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall to a network element agent (NEA) provided on the second side of the firewall;

parsing said SOAP encoded requests received by said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall in said NEA which encompasses data needed to complete a single nodal transaction;

encoding in said NEA, said SOAP message to produce SOAP packets;

transmitting said SOAP packets to a translator box associated with the network element, said translator box located on the second side of the firewall;

translating said SOAP packets into an appropriate command for the network element; and

transmitting said command to the network element located on the second side of the firewall.

2. (original) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of providing said web server at a localized location with respect to the application source.

3. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 1 further including the step of transmitting in a simple object access protocol encoded request a network element configuration data from said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall to a network element discovery network server (NED).

4. (original) The method in accordance with claim 3, wherein said network configuration data comprises port, card, slot and shelf information.

5. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of modifying said user request prior to sending said request to said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall.

6. (original) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

7. (original) The method in accordance with claim 5, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

8. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 1, the application source for communicating with a plurality of network elements located on the second side of the firewall, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of NEAs, each of said NEAs controlling at least one of the network elements; and

transmitting said SOAP encoded requests to a proper NEA.

9. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 8, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of translator boxes, each of said translator boxes controlling at least one of the network elements; and

transmitting said SOAP packets to a proper network element.

10. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of translating said SOAP packets into an appropriate command in said translator box understood by the network element.

11. (previously presented) A method for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and an application located on a second side of the firewall, comprising the steps of:

providing the application source with an applet to drive a user request, said applet provided by a web server included on the first side of the firewall;

creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol HTTP-SOAP packets of said user request;

removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP packet to produce a SOAP message;

sending said user request to a read/write server provided on the second side of the firewall;

transmitting said SOAP message to a network management agent (NMA) server provided on the second side of the firewall;

building an appropriate nodal model of said user request, including said SOAP message in said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall;

sending SOAP encoded requests from said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall to a network element agent (NEA) provided on the second side of the firewall;

parsing said SOAP encoded requests received by said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall in said NEA which encompasses data needed to complete a single nodal transaction;

encoding in said NEA, SOAP message to produce SOAP packets;

transmitting said SOAP packets to a translator box associated with the application, said translator box located on the second side of the firewall;

translating said SOAP packets into an appropriate command for the application; and

transmitting said command to the application located on the second side of the firewall.

12. (original) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of providing said web server at a localized location with respect to the application source.

13. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of modifying said user request prior to sending said request to said NMA server provided on the second side of the firewall.

14. (original) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

15. (original) The method in accordance with claim 13, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

16. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 11, for communicating with a plurality of applications, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of NEAs, each of said NEAs controlling at least one of the applications; and

transmitting said SOAP encoded requests to the proper NEA.

17. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 16, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of translator boxes, each of said translator boxes controlling at least one of the applications; and

transmitting said SOAP packets to the proper applications.

18. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of translating said SOAP packets into the appropriate command in said translation box understood by the application.19-40 (cancelled)

19-40 (cancelled)

41. (previously presented) A method for communicating between an application source and an application, comprising the steps of:

providing the application source with an applet to drive a user request; creating a hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol (HTTP-SOAP) packet of said user request;

removing the HTTP portion of said HTTP-SOAP packet to produce SOAP message; sending said user request to a read/write server;

transmitting said SOAP message to a network management application (NMA) server;

building an appropriate nodal model of said user request, including said SOAP message in said NMA server;

sending SOAP encoded requests from said NMA server to a network element agent (NEA);

parsing said SOAP encoded requests received by said NMA server in said NEA which encompasses data needed to complete a single nodal transaction;

encoding in said NEA, said SOAP message to produce SOAP packets;

transmitting said SOAP packets to a translator box associated with the application;

translating said SOAP packets into an appropriate command for the application; and

transmitting said command to the application.

42. (original) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of providing said web server at a localized location with respect to said web browser.

43. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of modifying said user request prior to sending said request to said NMA server.

44. (original) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

45. (original) The method in accordance with claim 43, further including the step of transmitting said user request to a database for storage.

46. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 41, for communicating with a plurality of applications, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of NEAs, each of said NEAs controlling at least one of the applications; and

transmitting said SOAP encoded requests to a proper NEA.

47. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 46, further including the steps of:

including a plurality of translator boxes, each of said translator boxes controlling at least one of the applications; and

transmitting said SOAP packets to a proper application.

48. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of translating said SOAP packets into an appropriate command in said translator box understood by the application.

49-61 (cancelled)

62. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of translating in said translator box an appropriate command from the application into SOAP nomenclature.

63-65 (cancelled)

66. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 41, further including the step of translating in said translator box an appropriate command from the application into a SOAP nomenclature.

67-75 (cancelled)

76. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 1, further including the step of transmitting said command from said translator box to said network element over the world wide web.

77. (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 11, further including the step of transmitting said command from said translator box to said network element over the world wide web.

78-82 (cancelled)